JCLA NFP Community Project – FAQ

“The program offered me an opportunity to access new and unconstrained ways of thinking about our business. The enthusiasm and desire of the students to make a better tomorrow was refreshing and inspiring.” Patrick Moran, Edge. S1 2014.

What should a Community Project Include?
- Able to be achieved/implemented within 3 months (refer to the specific dates)
- Provide developmental leadership opportunities for students to develop their skills including teamwork, project management, planning and communications.
- Results in a positive impact in the community

What are example projects?
Solving a problem that the organisation is facing
- Creating Business, Marketing and/or Project Management plans
- Modernising communication strategies
- Developing an awareness campaign
- Hosting a medium size event (eg Quiz nights, Concerts, Wheel-athon, Art Auction, Movie nights, High Tea Networking Event, BBQ’s etc)
- Working collaboratively on an existing larger scale event which will eventuate before the end of the specified times.

What does the process involve?
- Community Organisations submit potential projects and are reviewed for suitability and presented to students on camp (posted up around the room for students to read over the 4 day camp).
- A selection of organisations will be invited to speak on JCLA camp about their organisation and about the project (but this does not guarantee project will be taken on)
- On the final day of camp, students self-select the project they would like to work with in teams of 6 students
- Post camp - Student group and Community Organisation meet to discuss and decide on scope/communication frequency/preferences etc. Unsuccessful projects will be notified.
- Students must then complete a Project Charter and Project Management and Marketing Plan
- NB-Not all projects can be taken on. Only 5 projects can be selected (from a pool of up to 20 projects).

What can the NFP Organisation expect?
- 6 x committed students (spend 5-7 hours per week) from different faculties, backgrounds, ages (average age = 22 years)
- Students are balancing University studies, part-time work, hobbies/sport, family, relationships…and JCLA!
- Most will have very limited experience with working with professional organisations
- It is likely to be a big learning experience for them, but they are capable and hard-working and put a large amount of work in
- Sometimes expectations will need to be re-visited half way through!

What do we recommend?
- Start the communication early
- Be clear with the objectives of the project and transparent with limitations. This includes restrictions to use of your organisation’s brand/anything you know will not get approved
- Some projects may be less clear (ie generating creative approaches to raise awareness of X)
- But both parties must agree on the scope and outcomes early (within 2-3 weeks)
- The groups require a contact person, if that person is planning leave please provide a handover for an alternative contact person and connect the two
- Work with the JCLA Project Mentors (an alumni who is allocated to each team and is also developing their leadership skills)

What are the guidelines?
- You must be an Australian registered Non-Profit Organisation
- You must have a bank account that students can deposit fundraised funds into
- Only one successful project proposal per 12-month period per NFP, (so that if a NFP submits a proposal in Semester 1 and doesn’t get picked, they can submit again in Semester 2).
- The community organisation must have a representative who is available to support students the entire length of project
- The more information to support the proposal the better (ie: attach PDF’s that can be printed and attached to EOI form as students don’t have access to internet on camp)
- Multiple projects can be submitted, however only one can get picked from your organisation.
- Feel free to give creative flexibility to students in deciding a project idea (however the project scope/outcome must be agreed upon within first 2 weeks).

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